BRITISH COLUMBIA

BC STATS

Service BC
Ministry of Labour and Citizens' Services

Sarah Harrower
(250) 387-0334
Sarah.Harrower@gov.bc.ca
March, 2007
Issue: 06-4

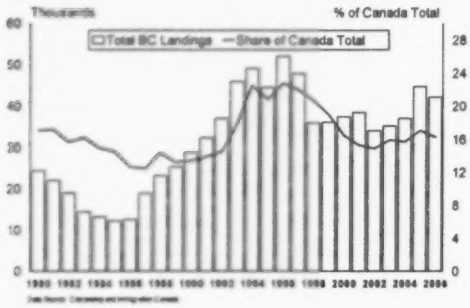
Immigration Highlights ◆ Fourth Quarter 2006

B.C. immigrant landings fell slightly during the fourth quarter of 2006 from their fourth quarter 2005 level . . .

A total of 9,446 immigrants arrived in British Columbia during the fourth quarter of 2006. This level was slightly lower than the total for the fourth quarter of 2005. B.C.'s share of total immigrant landings to Canada also fell below its fourth quarter 2005 level of 17.4 per cent to 16.3 per cent.

Total immigrant arrivals to Canada increased this past quarter compared to the same period in 2005. Between October 1st, 2006 and December 31st, 2006 a total of 58,106 landed immigrants arrived in Canada compared to 55,385 in the fourth quarter of 2005.

B.C. Immigration and Share of Canada Total

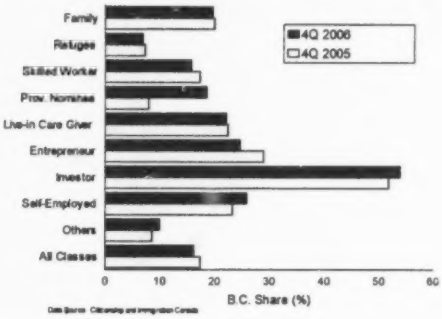


B.C. did remain one of the most popular provincial destinations for landed immigrants. During the fourth quarter, BC ranked third after Ontario (29,454) and Quebec (10,242).

B.C. received fewer Skilled Worker and sponsored Family Member Class landings than in the fourth quarter of 2005. . .

The family class accounted for the largest number of landings to B.C. in the fourth quarter of 2006. A total of 3,332 landed immigrants arrived under this class between October 1st and December 31st. B.C also received 3,101 immigrants under the Skilled Worker Class. Of B.C.'s total landings during the fourth quarter, 32.8 per cent were from the Skilled Worker Class and 35.3 per cent were from the Family Class.

B.C. Share of Immigrants to Canada By Class



As a share of Canada's total landings under the Family Class, B.C. landings were also lower than the same period last year. In the fourth quarter of 2006, B.C. received 19.8 per cent of Canada's Family Class landings, down slightly from the 20.1 per cent in 2005. A total of 15.8 per cent of Canada's Skilled Worker Class immigrants chose B.C. between October 1st and December 31st, 2006. In the same period of 2005, 17.4 per cent of all Skilled Workers landed in B.C..

B.C. continues to attract the greatest share of business immigrant landings to Canada . . .

Among the provinces, B.C. again received the greatest share of business immigrants in the fourth quarter of 2006. A total of 44.5 per cent of all business immigrants to Canada listed areas within British Columbia as their intended destinations. Included in this total were

125 Entrepreneur Class immigrants, 745 Investor Class and 42 Self-employed Class immigrants

Asian countries remain the leading source for B.C. Landed Immigrants...

Ten countries accounted for over 70 per cent of B.C.'s total landings in the fourth quarter of 2006. China was the single leading source country for all immigrants to B.C., followed by India and the Philippines. These three countries accounted for 45.3 per cent of all landings. The United States, South Korea, England, Iran, Taiwan, Thailand and Japan accounted for a further 26.8 per cent of B.C.'s total landed immigrants in the fourth quarter of 2006.

The Greater Vancouver area continued to be the top intended destination for Landed Immigrants...

Of all immigrant arrivals in the fourth quarter of 2006, 73 per cent reported the Greater Vancouver area as their intended destination. Landed Immigrants from the Caribbean were the most likely to settle in the Vancouver area. A total of 76.7 per cent of immigrants from this area stated an intention to settle there. Immigrants to B.C. from Asia were the second most likely to state an intention to settle in Vancouver at 75.9 per cent.

Previously Released Feature Articles

Dec 2006	*A Summary of the Federal Immigration Plan for 2006*
June 2006	*Age, Family and Marital Characteristics of BC Immigrants*
Mar 2006	*Family Immigrants to British Columbia*
Dec 2005	*Skilled Worker Immigrants to British Columbia*
Oct 2005	*Education Level of Recent Immigrants*
June 2005	*Immigrant s to B.C. Under the Provincial Nominee Program*
Mar 2005	*European Immigrants to B.C.*
Dec 2004	*A Summary of the Federal Immigration Plan for 2005*
Sep 2004	*2001 Residence of Recent Immigrants*
June 2004	*Business Immigrants to British Columbia*
Mar 2004	*Immigrants from India and China*
Dec 2003	*Twenty Years of Female Immigrants to B.C.*
Sep 2003	*Non-Permanent Residents & Citizenship*
Jun 2003	*Earnings of Recent Canadian Immigrants (Part 2)*
Mar 2003	*Earnings of Recent Canadian Immigrants*
Jan 2003	*Mother Tongue and Home Language*
Sep 2002	*English Language Ability of Recent Immigrants*
Jun 2002	*Immigrants as a Source of Labour Supply*

BC's Immigrant Landings and Inter-Censal Population Change

Special Feature Article – Fourth Quarter 2006

Population and dwelling counts from Statistics Canada's *2006 Census of Canada* were recently released for British Columbia. Over the May 15th, 2001 to May 16th, 2006 period the population of British Columbia grew by 205,749 people. As stated in Statistics Canada's *Portrait of the Canadian Population 2006, 2006 Census* (Cat # 97-550-XIE 2007), as a result of British Columbia's low fertility rate, "international immigration remains the principal factor in the province's population growth..."

The 2006 Census of Canada information on Immigration and Citizenship for British Columbia is not scheduled to be released until December 4th, 2007. However, information from immigration files held by Citizenship and Immigration Canada can provide us with some initial indications of the characteristics of population change between 2001 and 2006. This landing dataset lists the intended destination of immigrants to Canada. It does not however, capture any additional moves that new immigrants may make from this place of "intended destination" to their place of permanent settlement within Canada. Therefore, the Census provides information on exactly where new residents decided to live once arriving in Canada, while landings data can only describe where new immigrants intended to settle. Despite this difference, the distribution of new immigrants across place of "intended" settlement and distribution across place of residence at census time have had similar patterns over previous inter-censal periods. This special feature article compares landings information to immigrant data from the 2001 Census and current population data from the 2006 Census of Canada.

Figure 1: BC Immigrant Landings June 2001-April 2006

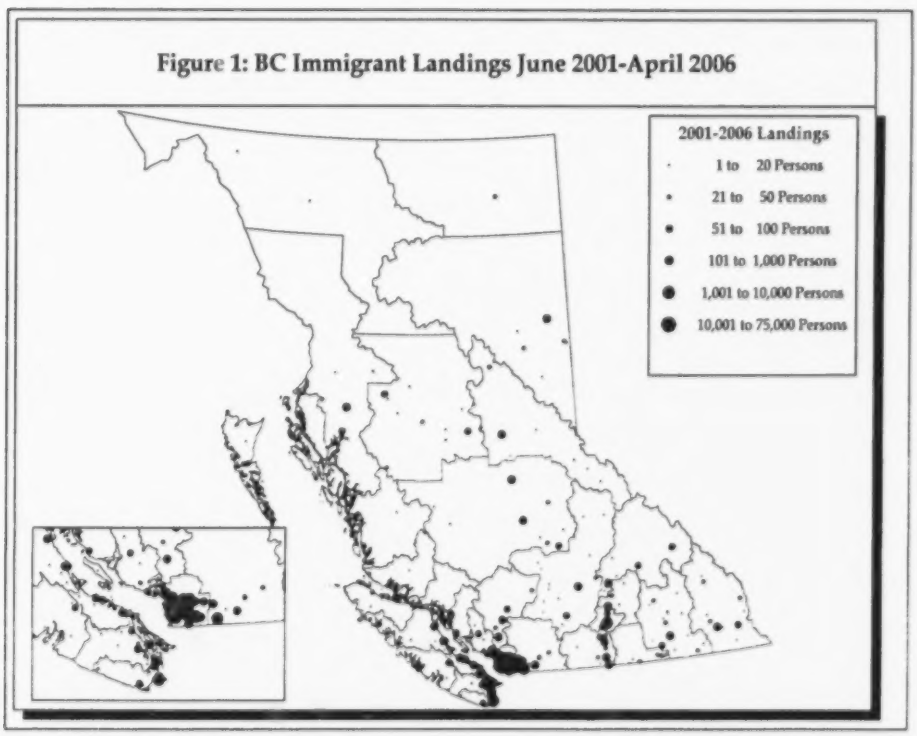
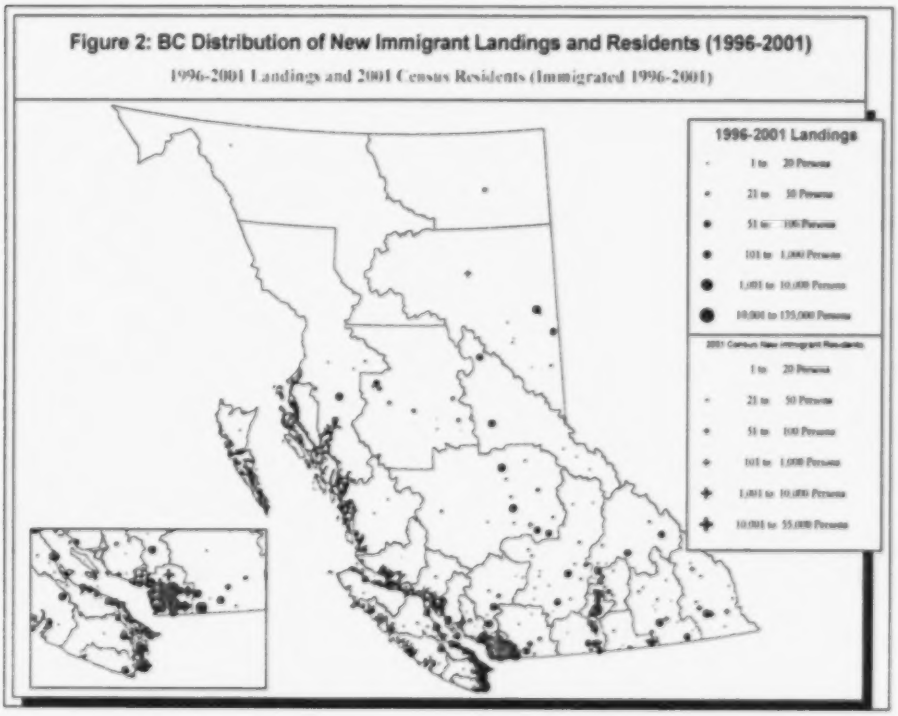


Figure 1 presents a map of the "intended destination" of British Columbia's immigrant population that landed between June 2001 and April 2006. The vast majority of immigrants that arrived into British Columbia over this period listed the Greater Vancouver area as their intended place of settlement. A significant number also chose to locate within the Okanagan Valley, Fraser Valley and South Vancouver Island areas.

This 2001 to 2006 pattern of intended destinations is not substantially different from the pattern of 1996 to 2001. Figure 2 presents a map of the "intended destination" of B.C.'s immigrant population that arrived between June 1996 and April 2001 and, from the *2001 Census of Canada*, the actual location of immigrants that had arrived over the same period. The pattern of "intended destination" is generally consistent with the pattern of settlement from the 2001 Census.

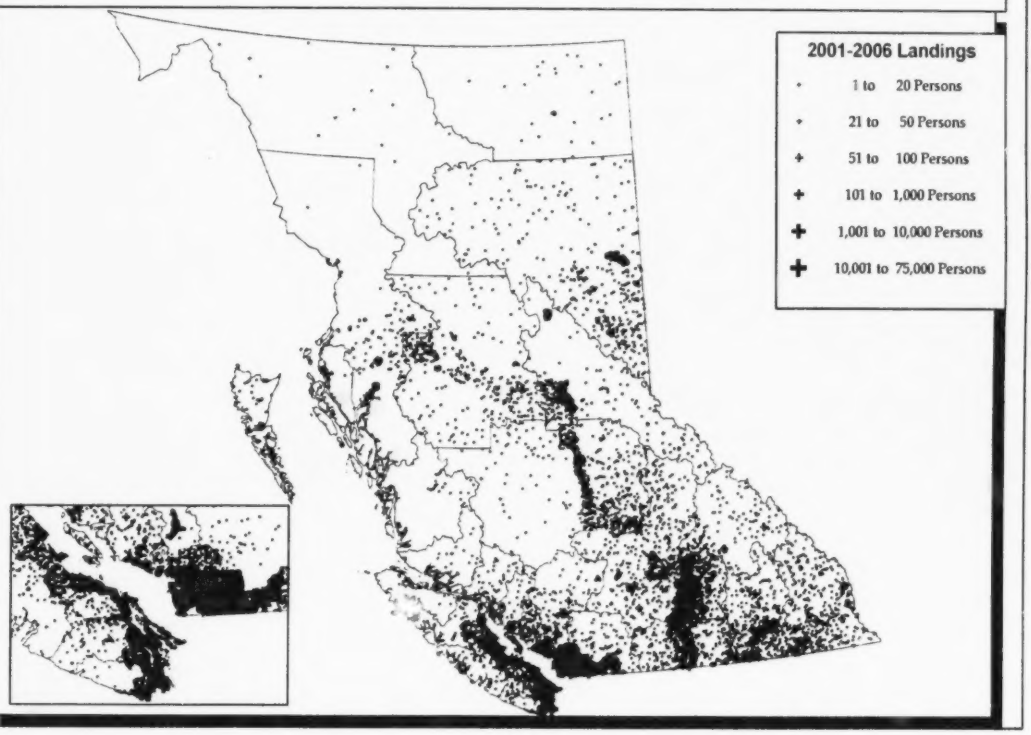
Figure 2: BC Distribution of New Immigrant Landings and Residents (1996-2001)



Finally, using the *2006 Census of Canada* population data for British Columbia and the "intended destination" data for immigrants that landed between 2001 and 2006, two further patterns can be noted. First, as expected, immigrants are more likely to "intend" to settle within densely populated areas of British Columbia. "Intended destinations" are mapped against British Columbia's 2006 Census population count in Figure 3[1].

Figure 3: BC Distribution of Immigrant Landings and 2006 Census Population

2001-2006 Landings and 2006 Census Total Population

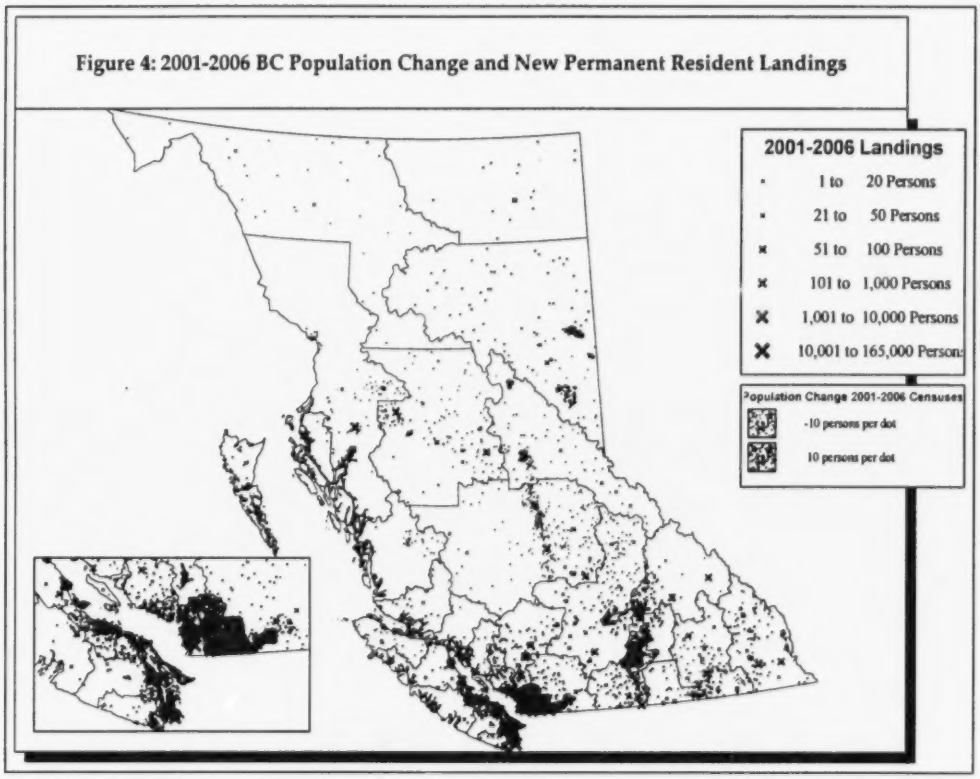


[1] Each dot represents 50 individuals.

Second, the areas immigrants listed as their "intended destination" within British Columbia include areas that experienced positive, and areas that experienced negative overall population growth between the 2001 Census and 2006 Census.

Figure 4 maps the immigrants' "intended destination" against the change in population seen between the 2001 and 2006 Census[2]. This hints at the complexity of patterns of migration within British Columbia, a complexity that the December release of the Immigration and Migration data from the *2006 Census* will allow us to explore.

Figure 4: 2001-2006 BC Population Change and New Permanent Resident Landings



[2] Each red dot indicates a loss of 10 individuals from the population at the census subdivision area, while each blue dot represents a gain of approximately 10 individuals.

B.C. Immigration by Area of Last Permanent Residence
October to December, 2006
Total Landings: 9,446 Persons

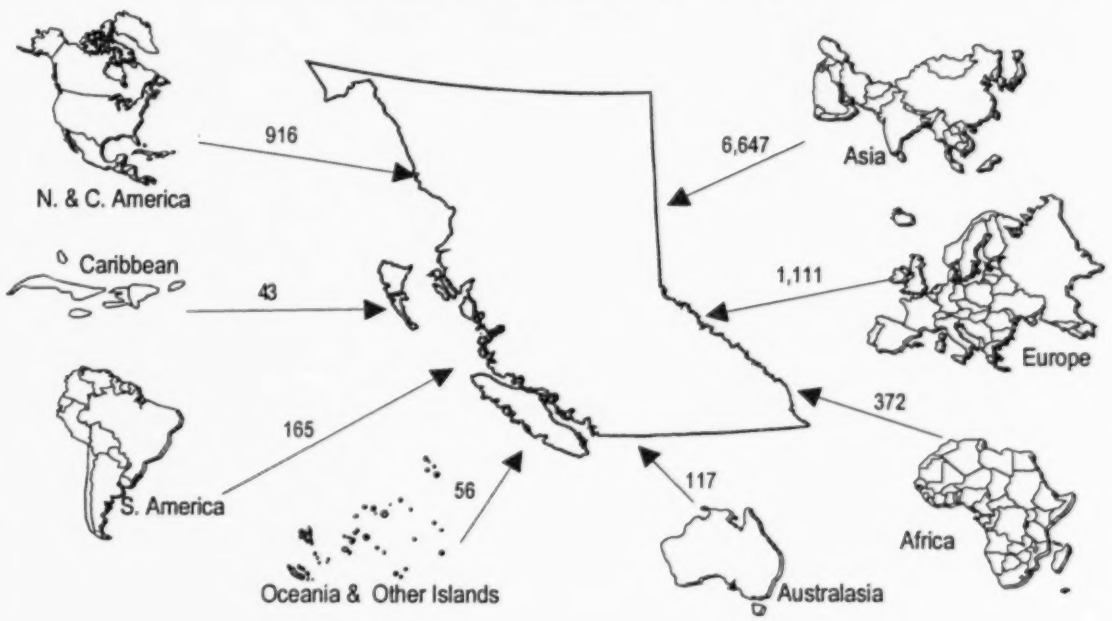


Table 1: Immigrant Landings to B.C. and Canada - October to December, 2006

SOURCE	Vancouver Area	Rest of B.C. *	Total B.C.	Canada	B.C. as a % of Canada
Europe	759	352	1,111	8,684	12.8%
Africa	229	143	372	6,839	5.4%
Asia	5,045	1,602	6,647	31,718	21.0%
China-Mainland	1,730	415	2,145	6,649	32.3%
India	770	540	1,310	6,117	21.4%
Taiwan	212	67	279	489	57.1%
Hong Kong	93	29	122	284	43.0%
Australasia	86	31	117	349	33.5%
N & C America	570	346	916	4,638	19.7%
U.S.A.	426	289	715	3,391	21.1%
Caribbean	33	10	43	1,874	2.3%
South America	115	50	165	3,600	4.6%
Oceania	40	16	56	159	35.2%
Not Stated	17	-	19	245	7.8%
All Areas	**6,894**	**2,552**	**9,446**	**58,106**	16.3%

** "Rest of B.C." also includes immigrants with unknown destination. Many might have been destined for Vancouver Area.*

-- indicates data suppression for confidentiality OR no value

Source: BC STATS,
Date: March 29, 2007

Data Provided By:
Citizenship and Immigration Canada

Table 2: Immigrant Landings by Class

- British Columbia -

Year / Quarter	Family	Refugee	Economic Classes						Other Classes	Grand Total
			Skilled Worker	Prov./Terr. Nominee	Live-In Caregiver	Entrepreneur	Investor	Self Employed		
1992	15,149	2,995	7,279	-	-	3,971	4,530	480	2,605	37,009
1993	18,457	1,492	10,445	-	192	4,073	6,867	677	3,735	45,938
1994	17,517	1,544	14,149	-	869	4,183	6,291	744	3,819	49,116
1995	15,308	1,875	18,437	-	1,176	3,508	3,036	956	278	44,574
1996	14,289	2,275	24,181	-	1,160	4,235	3,447	1,564	877	52,028
1997	12,916	1,996	24,731	-	874	3,335	2,257	1,250	482	47,841
1998	11,082	2,041	17,002	-	1,275	1,918	1,606	746	306	35,976
1999	10,991	1,896	17,736	11	1,339	1,866	1,519	659	111	36,128
2000	10,977	2,574	18,936	13	1,070	1,775	1,387	632	68	37,432
2001	11,819	2,199	19,765	24	880	1,618	1,692	444	27	38,468
2002	11,407	2,109	15,614	206	504		1,948	526	548	34,055
2003	11,577	1,827	16,238	441	758	914	1,760	338	1,384	35,237
2004	10,872	2,367	17,092	598	1,083	695	3,221	246	854	37,028
2005	11,723	2,156	21,815	789	1,080	871	5,360	289	689	44,772
2006	13,460	1,981	16,731	1,942	1,528	870	4,378	322	996	42,208
4Q2005	3,973	617	3,561	122	259	155	768	35	164	9,654
4Q2006	3,332	759	3,101	573	419	125	745	42	350	9,446

- Canada -

Year / Quarter	Family	Refugee	Economic Classes						Other Classes	Grand Total
			Skilled Worker	Prov./Terr. Nominee	Live-In Caregiver	Entrepreneur	Investor	Self Employed		
1992	101,124	52,348	67,415	-	-	15,873	9,694	2,821	5,544	254,819
1993	112,668	30,622	69,922	-	3,013	16,711	12,625	3,390	7,751	256,702
1994	94,196	20,435	69,908	-	4,980	14,200	10,480	2,745	7,454	224,398
1995	77,383	28,093	81,733	-	5,457	11,429	5,160	2,854	761	212,870
1996	68,358	28,478	97,916	233	4,759	11,911	6,175	4,376	3,865	226,071
1997	59,979	24,308	105,648	47	2,730	10,404	5,595	3,927	3,400	216,038
1998	50,895	22,841	81,265	-	2,868	6,618	4,534	2,625	2,547	174,193
1999	55,278	24,398	92,495	477	3,261	6,154	4,265	2,599	1,031	189,958
2000	60,611	30,094	118,593	1,252	2,782	6,187	4,951	2,527	460	227,457
2001	66,794	27,919	137,235	1,275	2,625	6,091	6,339	2,156	206	250,640
2002	62,308	25,122	122,728	2,127	1,985	4,479	4,636	1,907	3,757	229,049
2003	65,130	25,984	105,224	4,418	3,304	2,978	3,695	1,427	9,192	221,352
2004	62,262	32,687	113,445	6,248	4,292	2,470	6,099	1,190	7,131	235,824
2005	63,357	35,768	130,252	8,047	4,552	2,849	9,606	1,014	6,794	262,239
2006	70,459	32,470	105,924	13,329	6,885	3,098	8,017	952	10,377	251,511
4Q2005	19,804	8,397	20,459	1,517	1,149	533	1,480	150	1,896	55,385
4Q2006	16,864	11,076	19,646	3,076	1,891	505	1,380	162	3,506	58,106

British Columbia as a Percent of Canada

Year / Quarter	Family	Refugee	Economic Classes						Other Classes	Grand Total
			Skilled Worker	Prov./Terr. Nominee	Live-In Caregiver	Entrepreneur	Investor	Self Employed		
1992	15.0%	5.7%	10.8%	-	-	25.0%	46.7%	17.0%	47.0%	14.5%
1993	16.4%	4.9%	14.9%	-	-	24.4%	54.4%	20.0%	48.2%	17.9%
1994	18.6%	7.6%	20.2%	-	17.4%	29.5%	60.0%	27.1%	51.2%	21.9%
1995	19.8%	6.7%	22.6%	-	21.6%	30.7%	58.8%	33.5%	36.5%	20.9%
1996	20.9%	8.0%	24.7%	-	24.4%	35.6%	55.8%	35.7%	22.7%	23.0%
1997	21.5%	8.2%	23.4%	-	32.0%	32.1%	40.3%	31.8%	14.2%	22.1%
1998	21.8%	8.9%	20.9%	-	44.5%	29.0%	35.4%	28.4%	12.0%	20.7%
1999	19.9%	7.8%	19.2%	2.3%	41.1%	30.3%	35.6%	25.4%	10.8%	19.0%
2000	18.1%	8.6%	16.0%	1.0%	38.5%	28.7%	28.0%	25.0%	14.8%	16.5%
2001	17.7%	7.9%	14.4%	1.9%	33.5%	26.6%	26.7%	20.6%	13.1%	15.3%
2002	18.3%	8.4%	12.7%	9.7%	25.4%	0.0%	42.0%	27.6%	14.6%	14.9%
2003	17.8%	7.0%	15.4%	10.0%	22.9%	30.7%	47.6%	23.7%	15.1%	15.9%
2004	17.5%	7.2%	15.1%	9.6%	25.2%	28.1%	52.8%	20.7%	12.0%	15.7%
2005	18.5%	6.0%	16.7%	9.8%	23.7%	30.6%	55.8%	28.5%	10.1%	17.1%
2006	19.1%	6.1%	15.8%	14.6%	22.2%	28.1%	54.6%	33.8%	9.6%	16.8%
4Q2005	20.1%	7.3%	17.4%	8.0%	22.5%	29.1%	51.9%	23.3%	8.6%	17.4%
4Q2006	19.8%	6.9%	15.8%	18.6%	22.2%	24.8%	54.0%	25.9%	10.0%	16.3%

Important Note: Due to the changes in the classifications of immigrants, some numbers reported in this release are not compatible with those in previous releases.

Source: BC STATS,
Date: March 29, 2007

Data Provided By:
Citizenship and Immigration Canada

Immigration by Destination by Class
October - December, 2006

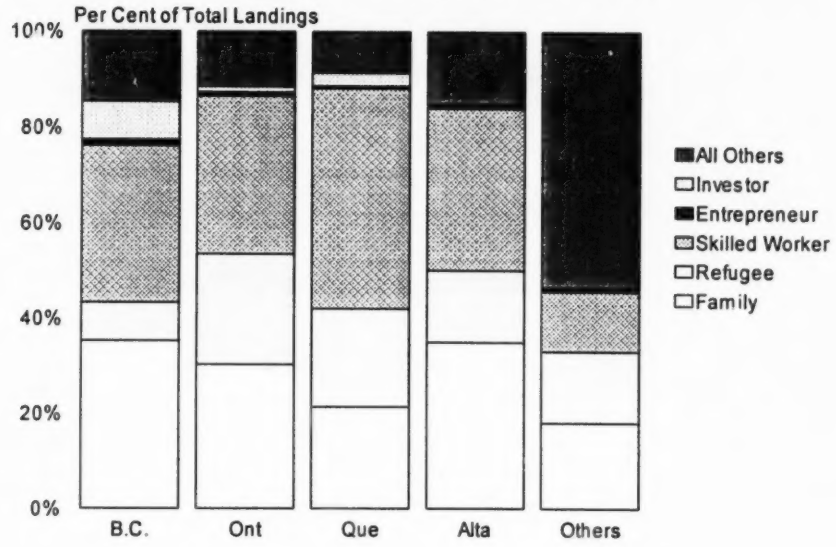


Table 3: Immigrant Landings by Province by Class

Year / Quarter	Family	Refugee	Economic Classes						Other Classes	Grand Total
			Skilled Worker	Prov./Terr. Nominee	Live-In Caregiver	Entrepreneur	Investor	Self Employed		
2006										
NFLD	110	140	156	78	7	-	-	-	15	**506**
P.E.I.	47	63	24	418	-	-	-	8	-	**565**
N.S.	506	221	788	859	-	59	42	17	84	**2,580**
N.B.	248	168	193	965	12	-	12	-	28	**1,633**
Que	9,214	7,094	23,610	33	647	312	1,222	180	2,399	**44,711**
Ont	38,326	18,759	54,466	484	3,413	1,700	2,199	352	6,220	**125,919**
Man	1,330	1,207	594	6,638	76	9	12	23	101	**9,990**
Sask	478	569	534	953	61	-	14	10	39	**2,658**
Alta	6,662	2,263	8,759	956	1,118	143	137	38	485	**20,561**
B.C.	13,460	1,981	16,731	1,942	1,528	870	4,378	322	996	**42,208**
Territories	67	-	66	-	19	-	-	-	6	**163**
Not Stated	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**17**
Canada	**70,459**	**32,470**	**105,924**	**13,329**	**6,885**	**3,098**	**8,017**	**952**	**10,377**	**251,511**
2006 Fourth Quarter										
NFLD	39	39	53	-	6	-	-	-	9	**151**
P.E.I.	14	22	-	120	-	-	-	8	-	**170**
N.S.	138	60	160	193	-	20	16	-	38	**626**
N.B.	77	54	58	177	-	-	-	-	13	**385**
Que	2,198	2,108	4,728	-	155	52	273	27	700	**10,242**
Ont	8,923	6,857	9,694	147	960	273	320	72	2,208	**29,454**
Man	360	296	107	1,295	32	-	-	-	29	**2,129**
Sask	127	170	146	315	15	-	-	-	12	**785**
Alta	1,635	706	1,586	250	297	29	20	9	142	**4,674**
B.C.	3,332	759	3,101	573	419	125	745	42	350	**9,446**
Territories	19	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	**37**
Not Stated	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**7**
Canada	**16,864**	**11,076**	**19,646**	**3,076**	**1,891**	**505**	**1,380**	**162**	**3,506**	**58,106**

Important Note: Due to the changes in the classifications of immigrants, some numbers reported in this release are not compatible with those in previous releases.

- indicates data supression for confidentiality OR no value

Source: *BC STATS,*
Date: *March 29, 2007*

Data Provided By:
Citizenship and Immigration Canada

B.C. Immigration by Top 10 Source by Class
October to December, 2006

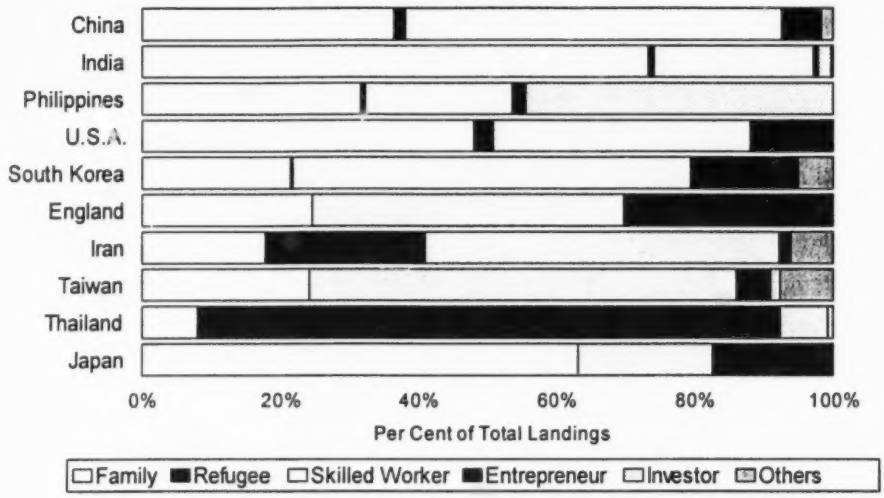


Table 4: B.C. Immigrant Landings by Source By Class, October - December, 2006

			Economic Classes							
	Family	Refugee	Skilled Worker	Prov./Terr. Nominee	Live-In Caregiver	Entrepreneur	Investor	Self Employed	Other Classes	Grand Total
World Area										
Europe	331	38	462	175	17	18	19	-	47	**1,111**
Africa	69	112	99	66	-	-	-	-	17	**372**
Asia	2,366	479	2,178	225	389	98	704	31	177	**6,647**
Australasia	51	-	39	13	-	-	-	-	9	**117**
N&C America	392	71	263	80	-	-	18	-	83	**916**
Caribbean	23	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	**43**
S. America	55	44	40	8	6	-	-	-	11	**165**
Oceania & Isl.	31	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	**56**
Stateless	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**19**
Top 20 Source Countries										
China	568	26	848	90	-	26	531	15	41	**2,145**
India	933	11	292	9	23	-	-	-	33	**1,310**
Philippines	254	-	171	16	356	-	6	-	11	**819**
U.S.A.	311	18	241	75	-	-	14	-	51	**715**
South Korea	69	-	185	50	-	16	66	7	23	**417**
England	89	-	163	109	-	-	6	-	13	**381**
Iran	53	69	152	-	-	18	26	-	10	**335**
Taiwan	54	-	138	11	-	17	42	6	8	**279**
Thailand	20	210	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	**252**
Japan	91	-	28	25	-	-	8	-	8	**160**
Pakistan	42	17	79	-	-	-	-	-	7	**152**
Vietnam	124	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**136**
Mexico	52	31	16	-	-	-	-	-	17	**129**
Hong Kong	67	-	30	-	-	-	8	-	16	**122**
Russia	27	15	57	-	-	-	-	-	-	**109**
South Africa	12	-	36	55	-	-	-	-	-	**105**
Australia	39	-	35	10	-	-	-	-	8	**95**
Germany	36	-	26	19	-	-	-	-	-	**90**
Romania	13	-	61	6	-	-	-	-	-	**80**
Malaysia	15	-	54	-	-	-	-	-	-	**77**
Others	463	353	469	77	29	25	29	-	89	**1,538**
	3,332	**759**	**3,101**	**573**	**419**	**125**	**745**	**42**	**350**	**9,446**

Important Note: Due to the changes in the classifications of immigrants, some numbers reported in this release are not compatible with those in previous releases.

- indicates data supression for confidentiality OR no value

Source: *BC STATS,*
Date: *March 29, 2007*

Data Provided By:
Citizenship and Immigration Canada